sical and financial targets. These measures adopted by the Government have helped in effective implementation of these programmes.

Conference for agriculture and rural development activities

502. SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry have recently organised some round table conference to evolve and action-frame for corporate entities to get involved in the agriculture and rural development activities;

(b) if so, the details thereof with objectives behind it;

(c) whether the activities as in (a) above will boost scope of rural employment;

(d) if is, the details thereof with steps to be taken in this regard and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI UTTAMBHAI PATEL): (a) The Ministry of Rural Development is not aware of organising of such a conference recently by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry. Nor has the Ministry received any such proposal from the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry.

(b) to (e) Does not arise.

Allocation of funds for J.R.Y.

503 SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the PRME MINISER be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated to different stages for implementing Jawahar Rozgar Yojana during the last three years;

(b) whether there is a need to enhance the allocation under the Scheme to backward States like Orissa, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh; and

(c) if so, the steps taken in that direction during 1994-95?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) The Statewise funds released under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) during the last three years is given in enclosed Satement. (See below).

(b) Government recognises the special problems in relatively backward states.

(c) To provide additional employment opportunities in the backward States like Orissa, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh, the JRY was intensified in 120 backward districts of the country where there is concentration of unemployment and under-employment and hence the need for intensifying efforts on rural employment. Accordingly, an allocation of Rs. 878.20 crores was made during 1993-94 (including the States' Matching Share) for intensifying JRY in these backward districts. An equal amount has been allocated for the year 1994-95 also in addition, the allocation under normal JRY has also been significantly enhanced every successive year.

Further, an Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) has also been introduced w.e.f. 2-10-1993 in 1778 backard blocks of the country where Revamped Public Distribution System (RPDS) is in operation. This scheme aims at providing 100 days of assured employment to all those who are above 18 years and below 60 years of age, in rural areas, who are in need of employment and seeking it.